

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 IO-10 SAM-01 EUR-12 ACDA-05 /090 W

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R 170814Z JUL 75

FM AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 3077

INFO AMEMBASSY CAIRO

C O N F I D E N T I A L MOGADISCIO 1031

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, SO, US

SUBJECT: US - SOMALI RELATIONS: NAVAL FACILITIES

REF: STATE 167628 (NOTAL)

1. AS NOTED REFTEL, DURING HIS 3-HR TALK WITH DODER OF WASHINGTON POST, TANNER OF NY TIMES AND MULLIN OF US NEWS WORLD REPORT ON JULY 2/3 SIAD REPORTEDLY SAID HE WOULD GIVE US NAVY FACILITIES IN SOMALIA. HE MADE SIMILAR COMMENT TO SENATOR BARTLETT ON JULY 3. BUT SIAD'S STATEMENTS ABOUT PROVIDING FACILITIES TO US NAVAL VESSELS HAVE ALWAYS BEEN MADE IN CONTEXT OF US SHIP VISIT AND AS RESULT WE HAVE ALWAYS UNDERSTOOD THIS OFFER IN SPECIFIC TERMS OF TRANSIENT SERVICING FACILITIES, I.E., REFUELING, PROVISIONING, ETC. (PARA 2, REFTEL). THIS LINE ALSO SATISFIED SIAD'S RATIONALE THAT FACILITIES AVAILABLE AT BERBERA TO RUSSIANS ARE SIMILARLY TRANSIENT FACILITIES RATHER THAN FIXED INSTALLATIONS UNDER SOVIET CONTROL. BARTLETT TRIP TO BERBERA ON JULY 4 DEMOLISHED THIS HALF-TRUTH.

2. YET NEWS REPORTS THAT SIAD MADE OFFER OF FACILITIES TO US NAVY NEVERTHELESS HAVE BEEN GIVEN MORE LIBERAL INTERPRETATION BY SOME OBSERVERS HERE AND ELSEWHERE. EGYPTIAN MILITARY ATTACHE ASKED ME ON JULY 14 IF REPORTS WERE TRUE THAT US CONGRESSIONAL DELEGATION HAD REQUESTED FIXED FACILITIES AT BERBERA AND THAT SIAD HAD AGREED.

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I DENIED REPORTS.

3. SOMALI AUTHORITIES MAY ALSO BE CONCERNED THAT SIAD'S OFFER OF FACILITIES TO US NAVY HAS BEEN TAKEN OUT OF POLITICAL AND SHIP-VISIT CONTEXT. ACCORDING TO EGYPTIAN MIL ATTACHE, EGYPTIAN NEWSPAPERS AL-AHRAM AND AKHBAR BOTH APPARENTLY PICKED UP NEWS REPORTS ALLEGING THAT SIAD HAD OFFERED US NAVY FACILITIES AT BERBERA. ISSUES OF BOTH PAPERS REPORTING SIAD OFFER HOWEVER WERE SEIZED UPON ARRIVAL MOGADISCIO AND HAVE NOT RPT NOT BEEN RELEASED.

4. NEVERTHELESS WE SHOULD ALSO CONSIDER WHETHER THERE IS IMPLICIT IN SIAD'S OFFER OF FACILITIES OF US THE SUGGESTION THAT TIME MAY COME WHEN SOMALI NAVAL FACILITIES CAN BE GIVEN OTHER NATIONS BUT SPECIAL ADVANTAGES TO NONE. IN THAT SENSE, WE SHOULD UNDERSTAND WHY PRESS REPORTS OF SIAD'S OFFER OF IMMEDIATE FACILITIES TO US MIGHT DO VIOLENCE TO REAL MEANING OF SIAD'S STATEMENT.  
HAMRICK

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PORT FACILITIES, MILITARY AGREEMENTS, NAVAL SHIPS, PRESS CONFERENCES  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
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**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
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**TAGS:** PFOR, SO, US, OAU, (SIAD BARRE, MOHAMED)  
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